

**People Against Puppy Mills**  
**"Voices for the Voiceless"**  
**Columbus, Ohio**

Dear Business Owner:

There has been a concerted effort for years to address the puppy mill situation in Holmes County; a number of meetings and correspondence with commissioners, Miller, Hall and Fiekert have produced absolutely nothing. With the puppy mill legislation currently in the Ohio State House the intention is to step up attention for the need to pass this bill. Part of that effort will be scheduled protests in Holmes County in hopes to bring awareness to the tourist trade that there is a dirty little secret hidden among the hills in the beautiful country side. The negative press and the lasting impression of the pictures they see and stories they hear will get some people involved that had no prior awareness of the situation. An unfortunate side affect from this will be a negative effect on the tourist trade in Holmes County.

We urge you to read the puppy mill bill at

<http://www.columbusdogconnection.com/legislation.htm>. We are asking that the State of Ohio set basic standards of care for commercial breeders. It's a simple bill with only one objective and that is to State regulate a business that is currently not regulated by the State. As a business person in Holmes County you know that there are rules and regulations that you must follow; taxes to be paid, etc. We are asking the same for the **9 million dollar plus** dog industry in your county. That dollar amount was given to the Ohio State House of Representatives by Ervin Raber, President, Ohio Pro Dog Breeders Association. We are asking other business in Holmes County to step forward and see that all businesses are run with the same level of responsibility and accountability. By working together we can get this important piece of legislation through and all of our lives can be resumed.

We thank you for your support in advance.

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